



grace central

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Assistant Pastor of Youth

Welcome

We are thankful for your interest in serving as an assistant pastor of youth. It is our hope that this packet will help you discern your next steps. Here is a brief introduction video from pastor Joey Mills. We are praying for you!



Our core values seek to demonstrate that Grace Changes Everything:

Live the Gospel

Love the City

Seek the Kingdom

Do the Mission

Be the Church



What We're Looking For

The primary responsibilities of the Assistant Pastor of Youth will be teaching, discipleship, and event planning. The youth ministry at Grace Central is a new ministry and calls for a candidate who has strengths in forming and implementing vision, someone excited about strengthening what has been developed and providing further direction. The current group of students range from late elementary school to high school. The candidate will also be serving the church as a traditional assistant pastor in other areas.

Particular Focus: Teaching, Discipleship, Service

Teaching (worship & community): A big part of your job will be leading the weekly youth service. The youth service has a time of biblical teaching or preaching and fun (games, events, etc.). It's a time for students to grow in their knowledge of God's word, love for the gospel, and friendships with each other. (Part of creating a space for friendships includes planning quarterly {game night, "lock-in," etc}) and annual {retreats, etc.} events for students.)

Discipleship: We're looking for someone who loves to help students grow strong in God's word, prayer, and service. Beyond these basic practices, we hope you can be a friend that is present in their lives and someone who has an (intellectual) interest in engaging the cultural issues they have to wrestle with today, modeling clear moral discernment in a confused age.

Service: We want our youth to know the joy of discovering their gifts and serving others. We'd want you to help students find ways to serve inside (student leadership, etc.) and outside the church (mission). Outreach may consist of quarterly service opportunities in the city, which could be in tandem with other local churches or by linking up with our (adult) outreach team. Focus areas and your weekly hours: The majority of your weekly hours will be spent in these above listed areas—prepping teaching for the service, meeting with students, and planning/attending events.



What We're Looking For

General Features

- Work alongside pastor and director of operations. You can imagine a minimal “office life” at Grace Central that includes a weekly staff meeting and monthly session meeting.
- Develop direction and structures for the youth ministry. Do you like envisioning and building, being creative? We hope so. We’re looking for someone who can create and enact a vision that aligns with our church’s values and integrates the three areas of focus. There’s a lot of freedom within these basic parameters (Grace Central’s values and your focus areas).
- Develop and lead volunteers in the youth ministry. You’ll be stepping into a newly formed ministry that is currently being led by a handful of faithful volunteers. That’s a win! They’ll keep loving our students and serving with the new pastor. You’ll oversee, train, and lead volunteers, but we hope you do that with charity and humility—with a collaborative spirit.

Other Responsibilities:

(These responsibilities will vary depending on candidates’ giftings and interest. No candidate would be expected to do all, but part of this position serves the congregation in the traditional Assistant Pastor role.)

- Lead discipleship with church members.
- Teach in the men’s ministry and Sunday School.
- Preach occasionally during the Sunday worship service.
- Serve the city through outreach (e.g., engaging the art community, the homeless community, etc.).



What We're Looking For

Qualifications:

- Education: M.Div., MAT, or pursuing a seminary education. Strong oral and written communication skills.
- Ordination: Ordained or ordainable in the Presbyterian Church of America (PCA).
- Experience: 2-3 years in youth ministry, experience with planning events, teaching/preaching experience.
- Personal: Committed to a devotional life in the word and prayer; believes joy is a very serious part of loving Jesus; considers themselves a “self-starter” (entrepreneurial, not looking for micro-management).

To Apply: Please submit a resume, cover letter, and a brief 1–2 minute introductory video about yourself and interest in this position (an iPhone clip is just fine!). Email your application to Joey Mills (joey@gracecentral.org). Feel free to reach out with any questions. We look forward to hearing from you!



Congregation



Grace Central has a healthy diversity in terms of age and profession, with a higher concentration of young professionals and academics, and particularly married couples with school and pre-school aged children. Families are also diverse in terms of preferred educational environment, which includes a mix of those choosing public school, private school, and homeschooling. Due to the church's proximity to the Ohio State University main campus, the congregation tends to have a number of graduate and medical students and physician residents.

As a developing city, the Columbus population is more transient than some other major cities. The "typical" adult Columbus resident is not a Columbus native, although many come from other parts of Ohio. For a church congregation only twenty years old, Grace Central has been fortunate to have many long-term members (>10 years). However, it is also common for students and young professionals to relocate to and from Columbus. Grace Central is likewise continually welcoming new attendees as well as "sending off" those leaving the area, many of whom are often heavily involved in church ministries. This creates both great blessings and challenges in terms of church growth and stability.

Due to our building's location, the congregation of Grace Central represents many of the neighborhoods as well as universities of Columbus. We are continually inviting in new families and young adults, with baptisms of babies into the covenant community happening on a regular basis. We are also frequently commissioning graduate students and higher education professionals to their next vocation in the world of higher education. The coming and going of



young families and those in higher education set the rhythms of Grace Central on the academic calendar. Grace Central has a handful of mature Christian families providing encouragement to our young families and children and stability for the continual ebbs and flows of the Grace Central community.



The City

Columbus, Ohio is a large, growing city, ranked #14 in the U.S. in terms of population (city proper) and #32 with an overall metropolitan area population of ~1.2 million. Serving as the state's capital, Columbus is also home to The Ohio State University, and as such, the State of Ohio and OSU are the two largest employers. In terms of private employers, Columbus has a diverse economy with several of the largest concentrated in healthcare, banking, and insurance.

As a relatively “young” city, Columbus is flourishing with a vibe similar to Charlotte, Nashville, or Austin, Texas, but with a distinctly Midwestern ethos. Columbus has a vibrant arts and music scene, many spacious parks, and countless “foodie” destinations—from five-star restaurants to ethnic food trucks and world-famous ice cream. Columbus is a fashion destination, with a number of national brands calling the city home. For children, the award-winning Center of Science and Industry (COSI), Columbus Zoo & Aquarium, and Zoombezi Bay water park are among the favorite destinations.

In sports, Ohio State Buckeye football is king, with over 100,000 fans filling the Horseshoe on Saturdays in the fall. Other OSU sports also provide some family-friendly more budget-friendly live sports viewing. Columbus is home to the Blue Jackets, of the National Hockey League and the Crew SC in Major League Soccer, as well as the minor league (AAA) Columbus Clippers.



Church History

Grace Central began in February of 2004 with the conviction that the ancient beliefs and practices of our Christian faith should be communicated sincerely through the context of genuine friendship, and in the language of our city's culture. After almost two decades, we still believe this story, and it's still making a difference in our lives.

Since its inception, Grace Central has enjoyed the leadership of Greg Blosser, who planted our church along with his wife Charity in 2004. Grace Central is part of a legacy of church plants, starting with Northwest Presbyterian, who desired to be a reproducing church. Grace Central planted Hope Presbyterian Church which now serves the Grandview neighborhood. God has grown a church that helped plant churches that in turn, formed the Columbus Metro Presbytery.

Greg served our congregation faithfully as a shepherd and teacher of the Word for the last twenty years, and we are so grateful for him, and dearly love his wife Charity and their five kids. The Lord called Greg onto his next church planting mission in Florida at the start of 2022. In February of 2023, Grace Central called Joey Mills to come and serve as our pastor. He and his wife, Sally, love the community at Grace Central and are thrilled to continue God's good work in Columbus! They both look forward to seeing the Gospel at work anew in this next season.



Confessional

As a Christian church, Grace Central looks to the ancient scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as our only rule of faith and practice, and together with churches throughout the centuries, we affirm the Apostles' Creed and the Nicene Creed as accurate expressions of the Christian faith.



As a confessional church and a member congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America, we subscribe to the Westminster Standards as a faithful summary of the teachings of the Bible. We also value other Reformed confessions such as the Heidelberg and New City catechisms.

Since our inception as a church, Grace Central has been blessed to hear the Word of God preached faithfully and lovingly. As we look to call our next pastor, we believe that God wants the full counsel of his Word to continue to be preached here: powerfully, winsomely, and in a way that moves his people toward works of faithful service out of a desire to worship him in their daily lives.



Ministries

To faithfully live out our mission and values, Grace Central is committed to doing the good work God has given us by inviting members to actively participate in the life of the church through engagement in worship, home groups and ministry teams. All three of these areas are currently led by dedicated members (not staff) of the Grace Central family.

Worship

Grace Central is committed to a clear liturgical movement every Sunday morning that welcomes the congregation into the grand narrative of scripture and assures that the Gospel is presented with an opportunity to respond through singing, readings, prayer, and confession. We believe the sacraments ought to be a regular part of our Sunday morning worship with the Lord's Supper practiced weekly.

We are committed to worship music which invites us into adoration, repentance, and thanksgiving. Our worship teams are not put up on a stage to remove any sense of performance and invite the congregation into song through their music gifts. This creates an atmosphere of reverence to God the Father, faith in Jesus Christ our Lord & Savior and openness to the Holy Spirit who draws us into a heart of worship together.

Home Groups

We are committed to being a church of home groups, not simply a church with home groups. Throughout the week we meet in each other's homes to fellowship, study Scripture and pray together. These small group communities of Grace Central are an essential lifeline for members of the Grace Central family, in times of distress as well as in times of celebration. Facilitators and hosts are in regular communication with the elders for pastoral oversight and direction.



Ministries

Ministry Teams

Grace Central can create and cultivate ministry teams as needs arise within the Grace Central family. Outside of home groups, our ministry teams are responsible for serving every facet of Grace Central's life together both on Sunday mornings and throughout the week.

Our current Ministry Teams include:

Audio/Visual

Children's Church

Greeting

Missions & Outreach

Men's Ministry

Hospitality

Nursery

Women's Ministry

Worship

Youth Ministry



Leadership

Session



Max Conrad – Ruling Elder



Vince Roadcap –
Ruling Elder



Mike Mattes – Ruling Elder,
Director of Operations



Joey Mills – Teaching Elder

Deacon Board



Bruce Beitman – Chairman



Eric Harris – Facilities



Joel Vaughn – Finance



Bryan Conrad –
Congregational Care



Core Commitments of the Elders

Communication

We are committed to the two-way street of communication—our communication with the congregation as well as our accessibility for the congregation to communicate with us. We want to be visible, approachable, and available.

Discipleship

The primary call of the church is to make disciples. We are committed to equipping home group and ministry team leaders, as well as congregational trainings (ex: new members classes, communicant member, Sunday school classes).

Diversity (through Missions)

Rather than attempt to reinvent the wheel, we will begin partnering with a diversity of faithful churches and ministries in Columbus that already have up and running opportunities for us to come alongside celebrate Christ's love with one another and for the city.

Fellowship

We want to foster a church body that lives in unity with one another, builds one another up, and breaks bread together as members of Christ's church. We give support and encouragement to deacons to facilitate new & regular fellowship gatherings.

Shepherding

The elders will be proactive in caring for our members as families and individuals over the next year, so that we can discuss how they are doing with spiritual health, well-being, vocation, family, marriage, and other aspects of life together.

Youth

At the end of 2019 we launched a Comprehensive Campaign to raise fund for the hiring of an Associate Pastor for Youth Ministry. In preparation for that hire, we will continue to seek ways to meet the needs of our youth and establish a youth ministry.





Thank You

